

Miss Ella Clark,

March 26, 1956

2000 F Street, N.W., Apt. 406

Washington 6, D.C.

Dear Ella:

Thanks for remembering me. I had been wondering how you had been faring with your research. Thanks for the book store tips. As I recall, a couple of them are already "signed" up.

Hope your project is moving along satisfactorily and that you are unearthing much new material. It is a wonderful opportunity to have the chance of researching in the Department of Interior library, where they should be loaded with enough Indian material to keep everyone satisfied for years to come. I will look forward to the result.

D and D could have hit it this spring, but the dealers seemed to think that was none to good. The publisher was willing to delay, apparently running months and months behind on "vanity" commitments and the ordinary straight contract material is sandwiched in between. Besides the Priest Rapids project has been still in negotiation stage. They've called for bids, found a low one, but are holding off awards until power contracts are signed which will provide the financing. Between us, I get the feeling that the financing may go slow. If it does, and construction doesn't start by July 1 under terms of the Federal Power Commission, it could revert to another agency like the Corps of Army Engineers. However I am sure that if financing is in sight the construction would be allowed to extend, but that would mean

adverse water conditions. As you know the snow pack is terrific. The runoff is causing much trouble all over the valleys--Yakima is even on the alert. Think what it will be later on the main Columbia.

I suppose you know too, that the project planners named the upper dam, Wanapum after the Priest Rapids people. Construction on that is due to start in 1962. The lower or Priest Rapids dam is at the foot of 11-mile long Priest Rapids (the rapids).

The actual publication date is October 6. Some of the Indians, including the old man, have consented to go "on tour" with me. If I am fortunate enough in having the assistance of friends at Pullman, and I am mighty thankful to believe I have, I suppose we will be favored by visiting there. (I don't know exactly what Buffalo Bill and his Wild West show put on, but we'll try to be more sedate.) So I suspect that would be the second week in October after we hit Yakima, Portland, Seattle, Wenatchee etc. first.

I've been called on to do quite a bit of speaking, mostly on Simcoe etc. because most people don't know about the book being on its way. I thought it better to delay that until later. But I am beginning to work in little "tantalizing" bits about Drummers and Dreamers and if what people tell me after the talk is so, the book is in. I am beginning to have the feeling that with its promotion, and because it is such a simple little thing, a plain story about a plain people, that people may be led to expect something big.

I'm enclosing a couple of clippings that may be of general interest to you.

Thanks again for remembering me. I do hope I will be wanted at Pullman. Lorraine, who is preparing to embark for Europe in May, joins in sending regards. We'll miss you at the Pacific Northwest History conference in three or four weeks.

Kind regards

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